



THE
CENTER
FOR ART
IN WOOD

formerly the wood turning center



Turning Points

online

FEBRUARY 2012 | ISSUE 19

Welcome to the New Center and 2012

From the Co-Founder and Executive Director

Since the doors opened three months ago, we have had over 3,500 visitors. At the old Center, we averaged a little over 2000 visitors a year! With more visitations we also have more sales of art work, which benefits the artists and the Center's programs. During construction, passersby stood at the window straining to see all the wood art work getting unpacked. What is this exciting new place their expressions said. I am totally indebted to the full-time staff of four who pulled the relocation off, with lots of help from volunteers, painters and carpenters, coordinators, project managers, vendors, trustees and friends of the Center. We are also grateful to our architects, QB3; retail store designer, Joan Doyle & Associates; and board president Dick Goldberg who served as the day-to-day foreman.



Imagine how happy we are to welcome familiar faces and lots of new friends. People are amazed at what the artists are doing with blocks of wood - and other materials. Everyone says, "It smells so good in here..." With construction aside, we are focused on implementing exciting new experiences. Tour groups can schedule tours based on their interests - history, books, and contemporary art. Speakers will provide their spin on objects, the collection and the library.

Extra hands on deck:

- Dick Goldberg has retired as an attorney, and is volunteering at The Center as COO.
- Perry Genovesi graduated in Library Science and reclassified the Center's library before the move, and organized it at the new location. This is supported by a grant from the William Penn Foundation.
- Tina LeCoff again works part time in the Museum Store and organizing special events.
- Erin Scheckenbach works part time in the museum store, and entering data into the Center's expanded data base.

Our 25th anniversary exhibition, *Turning to Art in Wood: A Creative Journey*, is the perfect inaugural exhibition at the Center. The collector's portfolio of the

same name, is selling briskly so get your coffee table book today. We are extremely grateful to Jud Randall, our master editor, and to Dan Saal, the impresario designer.

Sincerely,

Albert LeCoff
Co-Founder & Executive Director

The Center's Changing Public Face

Thanks to a matching grant from the City of Philadelphia Storefront Improvement Program the Center will soon be "sprucing" up its North 3rd Street façade. The Store Improvement Program has awarded The Center a matching grant which will enable it to replace its front entry door and garage door. The Center was assisted in obtaining this grant by Graham Copeland, Executive Director, of Old City District.

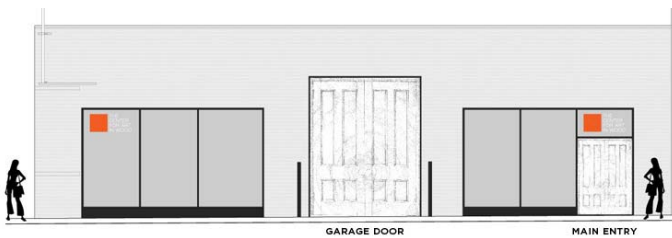
The existing metal garage door, which opens directly into the Gerry Lenfest Gallery, presents security and climate control issues for art objects within the gallery. In its place, a new, sturdy double doors of wood will be built which will not only provide critical security and climate control, but also better project the mission and purpose of the Center. A new front door will be similarly designed to complement the garage door.

Artist Gord Peteran, who was selected to design the doors, outlined his ideas for the doors in his proposal to The Center:

I propose creating a set of classical solid wood frame and panel doors styled after many of the original storefronts of this district. One set will be much larger than a traditional door size and the other somewhat smaller than usually seen up and down the street. In this case a common object begins to artistically challenge our assumptions. This subtle shift in scale is enough to set the creative stage for visitors prior to entering the Center.

Both sets of doors would be made out of solid wood. The outside would be prematurely aged and weathered to a silvery grey, taking on a visual timelessness. The inside surface will remain a varnished warm rich color of the natural wood. A series of circles would be milled into the outside surface emanating from the single point of contact, the knobs. This detail references the Center's background in woodturning and also talks about ripples of artistic influence that this organization has had and will continue to have.

Ideally all details of both artworks would stay in proportion. Whatever knob is used on the small doorway would remain in proportion to the large set of doors, hinges included.



If you would like to contribute to the matching grant, please contact Michael Lane at Michael@centerforartinwood.org to make a donation or receive additional information.

THE CHALLENGES HAVE JUST BEGUN!

Thanks to everyone who made 2011 donations to help launch the new Center for Art in Wood.

The Board and staff are extremely grateful to the members, friends and supporters who have donated in 2011 to our building, programming and Annual Appeal. YOU can skip below to the news, but we are also reaching out to all those who may have been focused on the hectic holidays but can now plan to help in 2012.



The Center's work knows no holiday. We've built a beautiful new place to feature wood art, and with help from our friends, we have to support it. When you renew your membership, increase your membership, shop in the museum store, or donate, you join others in helping the Center conduct nonprofit programs at our exciting new location. Your donation will be tax deductible to the extent of the law and will directly support 2012 exhibitions, educational programming, the 17th annual ITE Residency and our growing community outreach programs. You will also help us plan for future years of programming now. You also can donate now, as the first payment of a three year pledge. That way you show you want to help and will continue to help.

We hope that you can visit soon, witness the new Center and Join in the Fun! To renew, make a donation or start a 3-year pledge now, please contact Michael Lane at 215.923.8000 or Michael@centerforartinwood.org

Donors and Members Get 10% Off!

Donate or renew your membership before the end of February 2012, and receive 10% off in our Len Scherock Museum Store. Buy your Valentines here-small and large. Memberships also make great gifts AND they help the Center conduct our nonprofit programming.

[Donate or renew now!](#)

Special Events

Saturday, April 21, 2012, 2-4 pm

A Conversation with Michelle Holzapfel & Gerard Brown.

Artist and Curator of The Center's anniversary exhibition discuss their very personal art work and the *Turning to Art in Wood* exhibition at the Center on the closing weekend. Stop by on your way to or from the Smithsonian Craft Show or SOFA NY.

Center + Café Ole Events

Starting in February 2012, the Center will present special events at the Center, to include tours, discussions, demonstrations and other surprises. Registration includes a light dinner afterwards at Café Ole next door. Check the web site for listings, days and times. To schedule a group event, contact Tina LeCoff at 215.923.8000 or tina@centerforartinwood.org

Saturday, June 2, 2012 - ITE Show & Tell

Be the first to welcome the new residents and see and hear about the work they bring with them. Witness what they hope to accomplish during the ITE Residency.

Stay tuned for forthcoming details.

Save the Dates—2012 Exhibitions

Closing April 21, 2012

Turning to Art in Wood: A Creative Journey. Curated by Gerard Brown.

Celebrating 25 years of history at the Center and the fascinating evolution of the artists in the Center's collection. [Visit the online gallery.](#)

May 18-July 21, 2012

Hooked On Wood: The Allure of the Fish Decoy. Curated by Richard Dick Walters.



Harold Rickert

This exhibition will showcase modern fish decoys and highlight historical works as early as 1900. The history and craft of fishing lores will be explored with over 100 fish decoys on display: Ice spearing decoys - a handmade utilitarian tool, trophy fish - decorative piscatorial portraits, fishing lures and baits and folk sculpture.

Life Aquatic



Satoshi Fujinuma

Six artists have been invited to produce new work interpreted by, and in response to the themes of sea life. Pulling inspiration from water, sea animals and plants we have let the artists' imagination dive into the topic to produce captivating sculptures, wall hangings, and even imaginative creatures that may lurk in the abyss. Artists include: Michael De Forest, Satoshi Fujinuma, Michael Hosulak, Janel Jacobson, Merryll Saylan, and David Sengel.

August 3-October 20, 2012

allTURNatives: Form + Spirit 2012

Celebrating the Center's 17th year hosting the International Turning Exchange Residency (ITE) program, the resident fellows will work together for 2 months in Philadelphia to collaborate and focus on new directions in their work. This multi-disciplinary exhibit will reflect each resident fellows' experiences

Nov. 2, 2012-Feb 16, 2013

Your Personal Hang Ups. Curated by Gail Brown



Ashley Eriksmoen

The exhibition *Your Personal Hang Ups* will include 39 artists who have created inspirational and dynamic furniture. Curator Gail Brown has asked each artist to produce work inspired by the artists personal Hang Ups. Not to

be confused with our lifelong neuroses, but more practical such as ones (ideal) hat, coat and/or clothes tree or hanger, wall hooks, free standing pole, rack, stand or wall system. Each Artist responded to the theme with fun and whimsical alternatives into our cultural obsession of containing our material possessions

2012 ITE Residency

International Turning Exchange (ITE)

Now in its 17th year, the ITE Residency continues to foster and support the work of established and emerging artists, scholars and photojournalists from throughout the world. This year's fellows include:



[Maria Anasazi](#), PA, USA



[Daniel Copeland](#), NC, USA



[John Hallett](#), South Australia



[Daniel Ostrov](#), PA, USA



[Jeanette Rein](#), West Australia

[Namita Wiggers](#), Scholar, OR, USA

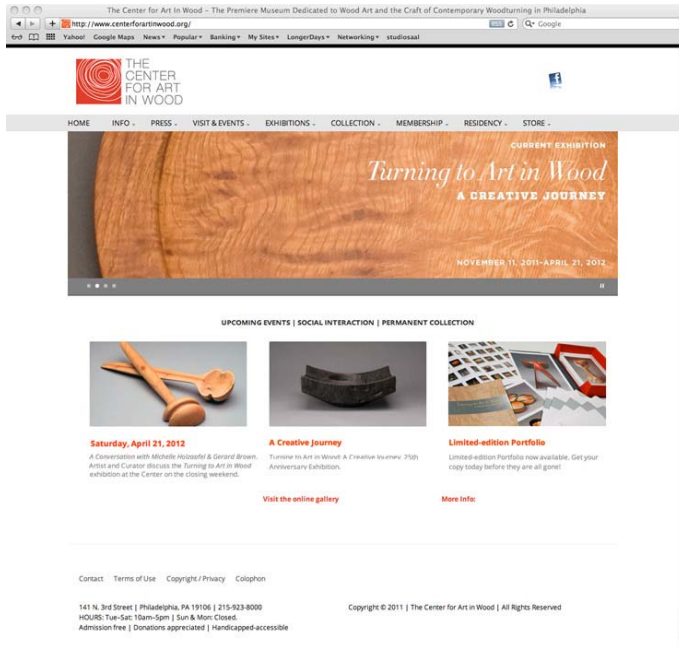
View the [press release](#) on our website for more detailed information.

Going Global

The Center's New Website Makes Its Debut

This past November, The Center's new website/database made its official debut. The new website has been designed in a clean, easily navigable format. The opening page includes current and upcoming events and features dynamic fields which showcase objects from the Center's current exhibition. The "look" of the website was developed in concert with the Center's rebranding initiative which more clearly reflects the scope of the Center's mission and vision.

Further enhancements to the site will include a unique module called "MyCenter." MyCenter enables users to create their own account, select works from the collections to put in their "gallery" and communicate with Center staff and other MyCenter users in a fashion similar to Facebook.



Please take a minute and tour The Center's new website at www.centerforartinwood.org. We would love to hear your feedback so please send your comments to Michael Lane at Michael@centerforartinwood.org.

Publications

Turning to Art in Wood: A Creative Journey. A collector's portfolio celebrating 25 years of the Center. A limited edition of 250. Boxed, numbered and individually signed by the authors. Includes illustrated essays, large-format color photographs of objects, and an 80-page section featuring thumbnails of all the work in the Center's Museum Collection. \$125 plus shipping. See more photos of this beautiful portfolio on our [website](http://www.centerforartinwood.org).



For more information and to order your copy, contact Lori Reece at 215.923.8000 or lori@centerforartinwood.org

Educational Programming

The Center, in partnership with Bucks County Community College's Artmobile, provides invaluable stimulating programming for students in grades K-12. Artmobile is an art museum on wheels, housed in a 48-foot

semi-trailer, which travels during the school season to schools in Bucks County, PA.

This year's feature, *Tree to Form*, is a multi-disciplinary exhibition that explores the creative process utilizing wood as the medium while incorporating strong educational and interactive components. The program has been developed in order to enhance students' creativity and academic performance. Over 50 objects have been borrowed from the Center's Museum Collection.

The Center is seeking funding to expand this highly successful program to the Philadelphia School District.

Get more info on our [website](#).



ABOVE RIGHT: Joanne Shima, *Child's Chair*, 1987. On view at ArtMobile.

Gifts That Continue to Give

The Center's Legacy Program

The Legacy Program is designed so our friends and members have an opportunity to earmark a financial gift or work(s) of art to benefit the Center's programs. Your future gift will endure through the years and provide you with a unique, ongoing connection to the Center's work. We will honor your wishes and, in turn, you will provide ongoing support to the Center.

For more information, please contact Michael Lane at 215.923.8000 or Michael@centerforartinwood.org.

What Do Press Articles, Tagua Bracelets and Gord Peteran Have in Common? They Can All Be Found On The Center's Facebook Page.

Did you know that you can find the most up-to-date information about The Center on our Facebook page? If not, "friend" The Center and learn about upcoming events, special items in our Len Scherock Museum Store, read articles about the Center and share your thoughts and comments with fellow Facebookers. [Friend The Center today!](#)

PHOTO CREDITS: VERY TOP RIGHT:
David Pye, *Study in Flower Form*, ca. 1980 (detail).



Presenting the finest contemporary works of art in wood

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